

Lander County School District

Educational Services Plan For The 2021-2022 School Year

"All students will be prepared, literate and confident in their ability to take charge of their future and contribute to their community"



Presented to the Lander County School District
Board of Trustees on July 13, 2021

Updated 12/7/2021

Revised by the Board of Trustees March 2022

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Nevada's Path Forward Framework

- School Operations
- Logistics
- Communication
- Human Resources

Full Time In Person Learning

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- Attend school in person every day with all extracurricular opportunities in place.
- Increased sanitation.
- In the case of quarantine related to COVID-19, students will be given temporary distance learning opportunities through their classroom teachers(s), using the LCSD Schools PLP online program.
- All students are provided a device (Chromebook and/or internet connectivity as needed).
- Students with disabilities will receive services as outlined in their Individual Educational Plans both in the regular and special education classrooms. Precautions will be used to ensure medical or health needs are met to safeguard students at high health risk.
- After school and summer school services will be offered for all students.

Full Time Distance Learning

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- This option is available to all families through the LCSD Schools PLP program.
- All students are provided a device (Chromebook) and/or internet connectivity as needed.
- Families have this option if needed due to COVID-19 related illness, or potential concern for illness of students or family members.
- Students are able to transition back to in-person learning at each semester break.
- Students with disabilities will receive services as outlined in their Individual Educational Plans through weekly contact with their special education teacher. Contact may include, Zoom meetings, phone calls, email or texts. Any needed student materials will be delivered to the students.
- Distance learning opportunities will be offered before, during and after school hours. Summer school distance learning will also be offered.

Information Technology

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- LCSD will assign a device (Chromebook) to every student in the district.
- Students are provided internet connectivity outside of the schools if needed.

Social and Emotional Health

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Social and Emotional Health remains as a high need for our students and employees. LCSD will:

- Provide Social Workers in schools and a school Counselor at the high school level.
- Provide employees opportunities for mental health breaks and provide professional development on mental/physical health and wellness.
- LCSD mental health workers will work with community resources to help students and families in need.
- LCSD will use Title I Homeless funding to support students to the extent possible.

Elementary and Secondary School Schedules

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- Every school site leadership team will develop class schedules with student and staff safety as a priority.
- Schedules will incorporate critical lessons learned from the 2020-2021 school year, including but not limited to, passing periods, lunch, recess, transportation, etc.

Teaching and Learning

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- Basic, and social and emotional, needs of students and staff will be addressed in order to optimize student learning. Resources are available for students and staff, though Social Workers and Counselors in schools, online resources and local health workers.
- See our District website for additional resources www.lander.k12.nv.us
- All students will continue to have equitable access to high quality curricular materials and effective instruction.
- Standards-based grade level instruction will occur with in-school instruction and distance learning models.
- Profession learning opportunities will continue to be available to educators for continuous improvement.

Health and Safety

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- No single health and safety measure in isolation will effectively mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, a multi-layered approach, including the following, will be used:
 - Self-screening and remaining home if any illness symptoms are present.
 - Enhanced cleaning & hygiene protocols, frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces.
 - Contact Tracing will occur as needed during high exposure situations in and out of the classrooms. Building and classroom security cameras will be used as needed to identify students exposed to COVID-19.
 - All students and staff may request free face coverings (including KN95) and free Covid-19 testing at select LCSD locations.

Health and Safety (Cont'd)

Regarding Directive 052, please refer to the following district documents:

- Health and Safety Measures
- Outbreak Protocol



Nutrition Services

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- Breakfast and lunch will be available to all students. Those students who are participating in distance education will have be able to pick up lunches at specified locations.
- Aspects of this service model are contingent on USDA regulations.
- Currently LCSD is offering free meals to all students and will continue if approved by USDA.

Transportation

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- Driver will disinfect handrails, seat tops and entrance doors between runs.
- Daily disinfecting of buses will be performed by LCSD Transportation.

Communication

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- Stakeholders will continue to be updated if new developments arise. Visit the LCSD website at www.lander.k12.nv.us for more details.
- Communication will include a variety of methods such as email, texts, phone calls, social media updates, robo calls, website posts, etc.
- Please contact LCSD (775-635-2886) to have this plan explained to you in a language other than English. LCSD will provide translation services as practicable.

Human Resources

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- LCSD employee health and safety is a top priority and is essential to student success.
- Therefore, LCSD employees are encouraged to take full advantage of the many health and safety benefits offered by LCSD.

CDC Guidance and Nevada Emergency Directives

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- Lander County School District will advise staff, students and families of the current CDC guidance and will operate in accordance with Nevada Emergency Directives.

Lander County School District Outbreak Protocols

Low/Moderate Transmission (Less than 8% of a building's population)*	High Transmission (8% or Higher of a building's population)*
Staff & Visitor Face Covering Protocols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional but Recommended** 	Staff & Visitor Face Covering Protocols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required
Student Face Covering Protocols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional but Recommended** 	Student Face Covering Protocols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required, with PK remaining optional

*8% of a student/staff population of a building being COVID positive within 14 days of each other, who were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting (i.e. household) outside of the school setting, AND are epidemiologically linked in the school setting or a school sanctioned activity.

**Students and staff who are following the reduced quarantining and isolation guidelines in Lander County School District's Health and Safety Protocols will be required to wear a face covering when returning to school for the duration of those guidelines.

Protocols for tracking and reporting outbreaks

- School health staff, in consultation with the district's Chief Nurse, will monitor all positive cases identified (and report to DPBH through Redcap)
- In cases of approaching Outbreak status, Chief Nurse will notify the building principal along with the superintendent to increase messaging frequency to all mitigation strategies in place in the building/district.
- Parental and student notifications will occur if the number of cases increases to within 2% of the threshold (8%) so that all parties can take any action needed to decrease transmission.
- At 8%, the particular school impacted will return to a full face covering mandate (with the exception of students at PK) and will ensure that all mitigation strategies in place are being followed in consultation with the building principal, school health staff, district Chief Nurse, and Superintendent. The district Chief Nurse will also notify DPBH of any outbreak statuses declared.
- The district will monitor the case counts over the rolling 14-day window to ensure that the case count falls below 8% for at least 14 days and will then close the outbreak.

Outbreak Status defined based on the definition of the Standardized K-12 school-associated outbreak from the [CSTE document dated August 6, 2021, Version 1.](#)

02/28/2022

- The district Chief Nurse will notify DPBH of any outbreak closures as well as the superintendent of schools and will ensure that all families, students, and staff, as well as community partners (including County Chief Medical Officer) are notified of the end of the outbreak as well through our Infinite Campus Messenger system as well as email.



We at Lander County School District are committed to employing the most up to date health protocols in relation to the COVID-19 virus.

Keeping the school environment safe and healthy can be quite a challenge. There are always germs being passed around from person to person, in the classroom, bathrooms, on the bus, and every other area of the facilities.

We can't eliminate germs entirely, but by working together with parents and families, we can reduce the spread of illness, improve attendance, increase graduation rates, and give each student the best opportunity to become a successful and healthy adult.

The symptoms list and requirements for exclusion may change **at any time** as we learn more about this concerning virus and as regulations change. We will keep you informed of changes to these regulations if/when we receive updated regulations from the State Division of Health and Human Services and/or the CDC. Current links to the Nevada DHHS and the CDC can be found here with pertinent, current information:

- [CDC guidance on quarantine and isolation](#)
- [NV DHHS quarantine protocol memo](#)
- [NV DHHS isolation protocol memo](#)

Thank you all for your patience as we all strive for normalcy in these uncertain and complicated times.

The protocols listed below for students, also apply to ALL Lander County School District staff members!

Keys to staying healthy:

- **Wear face coverings when appropriate**
- **Wash hands frequently (or use hand sanitizer when you can't), and**
- **Maintain physical distance from others!**

Are face coverings required?

Face coverings are only required for adults and children in schools that are declared in outbreak status by NV DHHS and for students who are returning from a 5 day quarantine as directed by DHHS and the CDC.

Face coverings must be appropriate per the student and staff dress code expectations in Regulation [5135.10](#) and [4122.0](#), respectively.

- Face coverings should be washed frequently at home or can be disposable (Reusable cloth is best).
- Face coverings are required to be worn should a child have to be isolated at school while awaiting a parent pick up due to being sick/symptomatic.

When should a child stay home?

In light of the current COVID-19 Pandemic, we have been directed by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services to expand our criteria for excluding children from school with symptoms of COVID-19.

Your child should stay home from school if she/he has **any one** of the following symptoms:

- Fever greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
- Chills
- Difficulty breathing*
- New cough*
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Body and/or muscle aches
- Headache
- Sore throat*
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

****New symptoms are different from symptoms of ongoing health issues such as asthma, allergies, chronic migraines, reflux, or COPD****

At Home Self-Check

All students and staff members need to be checking their health status at home prior to attending school each day. If any child comes to school with the symptoms indicated, the health professional will be conducting additional screenings that may result in your child being sent home. If in doubt, please keep your child(ren) home to recover.

When you call your child's school to report an absence, please know that the secretary or health professional has been asked to track a number of symptoms and will ask you about these symptoms as well as if your child has had a primary exposure over the last two weeks to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and for the date of that last contact.

The Division of Public and Behavioral Health has allowed us to define primary exposure as someone who was within 3 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated).

Absences will be documented according to the state's expectations regarding isolation/exclusion due to COVID-19 related symptoms or diagnosis.

What if my child gets sick at school?

If your child is determined, by Health Services Staff, to have symptoms of COVID-19, your child will be moved to an isolated room at the school where she/he will be monitored by school staff until you (or someone you designate) can come to school and take your child home. It is critical that your child is picked up from school immediately to help us prevent the spread of COVID-19.

While your child is in the isolated room, she/he must continue to wear a face covering and physically distance 6 ft. away from other students and staff. Health care staff will log the symptoms and must report the case to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health per the current guidelines. The classroom will be secured/closed and staff and other students will be moved for the remainder of the session. After a period of time, the custodial staff will deep clean the room before it is used again.

Please know that the district will keep all parties informed regarding confirmed cases or primary exposures and what protocols it is following, but also know that due to privacy requirements, the details shared will be based on the district's legal obligations as well as the necessary information to be shared.

When can my child return to school if he/she had symptoms OR tested positive for COVID-19?

Updated Isolation Procedure as of January 6, 2022:

According to the CDC, the change in isolation and quarantining periods is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after.

Given what is currently known about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant, CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation from 10 days for people with COVID-19 to 5 days if the individual is asymptomatic or has resolving symptoms, followed by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others. Everyone who tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status or booster status, must:

- Isolate at home for at least five days; **AND**
- Be fever-free for 24 hours without medication; **AND**
- Be asymptomatic or have resolving symptoms after 5 days; **AND**
- Be in a household where no one else is isolating for COVID-19; **AND**
- **Be such that 5 days have passed since symptoms first started, 5 days since a positive test was received, your child has had a negative COVID-19 test** (confirmed by a health care professional, not an at home test) **OR** a note from a **health care provider confirming your child does not have a confirmed COVID-19 case.**
- **Wear a well-fitting mask at school for an additional 5 days** after isolation is complete, regardless of the school's current universal masking status.
- Abide by the CDC requirement which states that if students or staff are unable or unwilling to wear a mask when around others after day 5, they should continue to isolate for a full 10 days.

DHHS defines resolving symptoms as:

1. At least 24 hours have passed with no fever and without the use of fever-reducing medicine; **AND**
2. Other symptoms are improving (loss of taste and smell might last for weeks or months after recovery but should not delay ending isolation).

COVID-19 PRESUMPTIVE POSITIVE TEST RESULTS WITH SYMPTOMS

Staff or student reports having a “Presumptive Positive” COVID-19 test accompanied with symptoms:

- Isolate student or staff in designated isolation area with supervision and appropriate PPE in use by health office personnel
- Staff member or parent can choose to retest (can be POC or PCR, but self at home tests will not be considered)
 - If positive, isolate for 5 days from symptom onset date or presumptive positive specimen collection date, whichever is earlier. (Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation)
 - If negative, continue to isolate and evaluate for other causes of respiratory illness (influenza, RSV).
 - If another respiratory agent is identified, follow appropriate exclusion/isolation for that agent as directed by School Health staff.
 - If negative for other respiratory illnesses, the student can return to school after being symptom free for 24 hours with no fever and without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms are improving.

COVID-19 PRESUMPTIVE POSITIVE TEST RESULTS WITHOUT SYMPTOMS

Staff or student reports having a “Presumptive Positive” COVID-19 test without symptoms:

- Isolate student or staff in designated isolation area with supervision and appropriate PPE in use by health office personnel
- Staff member or parent can choose to retest (can be POC or PCR, but self at home tests will not be considered)
- If positive:
 - Symptom-free for 24 hours without medication; **AND**
 - No one in the household is isolating for or sick with COVID-19-like symptoms; **AND**
 - **5 days have passed since symptoms first started**
- If negative and asymptomatic:
 - Return to school **AND** monitor for symptoms for 14 days from the presumptive positive specimen collection date.

What about other situations where my child may be excluded from the classroom?

Illnesses such as RSV, Influenza, etc.: Students with confirmed cases of other communicable diseases such as RSV, Influenza, etc, must follow the following guidelines:

- A person that is symptomatic and has a different lab-confirmed diagnosis (e.g., RSV, flu, other) with either a negative COVID-19 test or COVID-19 testing was not performed can return to school if:

- They follow protocol for their diagnosed illness (if applicable); AND
- At least 24 hours have passed without a fever (measured temperature of 100.4 F or greater) without the use of fever reducing medications and an improvement of other symptoms.

Primary exposure is defined as someone who was within 3 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from two days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic persons, two days prior to positive specimen collection).

Exception for students: In the K-12 indoor classroom, the close contact definition excludes students who were 3 feet from an infected student/staff where both students were wearing face coverings in a proper manner and other mitigation strategies were in place. ***This does not apply to any adults in the classroom.***

If your child had a primary exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, the following protocols apply:

Primary Exposure Protocols

- Students will be escorted to the isolation room at the school, where a health care professional will assess the student.
- In addition, the health care professional will call the parent/guardian to inquire about the possible exposure.

A student who has had COVID-19 within the last three months does not have to quarantine unless experiencing symptoms. Please monitor for symptoms and get a COVID-19 test if symptoms arise.

WHO DOES NOT NEED TO QUARANTINE:

People who have come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 and are in one of the following groups do not need to quarantine:

- Age 18 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people.
- Students 12-17 years old who have completed their primary vaccine series but have not yet received all eligible boosters. This is to allow time for students to catch up with the latest recommendations and to minimize disruption to in-person learning.
- Age 5-11 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.
- Anyone who has had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (who tested positive using a viral test, meaning a positive PCR or an antigen test. Antibody tests do not count).

These individuals must still:

- Wear a mask around others for 10 days after known exposure.
- Be tested for COVID-19 on day 5, if possible.
- If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and follow the quarantine guidance for unvaccinated or under-vaccinated persons.

WHO NEEDS TO QUARANTINE:

People who have come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 and are in one of the following groups need to quarantine:

- People who are not vaccinated or have not completed a primary vaccine series.

If exposure was a non-household member:

- **Unvaccinated students may return after 5 days with no symptoms** since last close contact with COVID-19 individual; **followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days once returning to school.** If symptoms develop, the student/staff member will be immediately isolated and parents are recommended to get the student tested for COVID-19.

If exposure was a household member:

- Unvaccinated students/staff members **may return after 5 days with no symptoms** from the time the COVID-19 positive household member is cleared of having active COVID-19.
- If the **exposed student/staff member already has a POSITIVE COVID diagnosis**, that individual **can return to school following** the COVID-19 Diagnosis protocols.
- If the household member is medically cleared on day 5 of quarantine, the student will be out a total of 10 days after the first day of symptoms for the infected household member.
- The exposed individual should continue to self-monitor for symptoms for the full 10 days following exposure.
- In the case **symptoms develop during these 10 days**, the person should either get **(re)tested or assume they are a probable case and immediately self-isolate for 5 days** from symptom onset.
- Household members (unvaccinated) may return after the full 10 days wearing a well-fitted mask for an additional 5 days.
- The CDC recommends that those that are unwilling to wear a face covering should remain quarantined for the full 10 days of their own incubation period.
- If a student/staff member develops symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19 while in the quarantine, follow the COVID-19 Diagnosis protocols.

How does all of this apply to my child's teacher or other staff members if they are exposed or sick?

All of the same protocols for students apply to staff members in our building, including quarantining if needed, isolation/exclusion, etc. Staff, however, will be asked to go home once it is determined that they are ill. Please know that we will work diligently to provide a classroom environment that is regularly sanitized and that follows all of the guidelines established.

How does my child connect for learning while out of school?

Students who are required to be out for a number of days will continue to work with their classroom teacher, but connect per direction, through the use of the internet and their student chromebook or to complete work sent home. Staff will engage them with tasks and opportunities including some live remote sessions as well as offline tasks. Teachers will stay in touch!! We ask that your child complete the tasks as he/she is able to do. Absences will be documented accordingly. Please know that we understand if your child is sick, her/his ability to participate may be limited--please just keep in touch with the teacher during those times.

How is the district sanitizing everything?

The district will be instituting sanitation protocols between class periods and between sessions at the schools. In addition, the custodial staff will be cleaning bathrooms and high touch surfaces regularly throughout the sessions as well as in between AM/PM sessions at night. Bus Drivers will also be sanitizing their buses in between routes and at the end of the shift.

What should I do if I have questions?

The district understands that this is a great deal of information to process. We are here to answer questions as you have them. Please know, our top priority is the health and safety of those in the school community. This is also one of the reasons we are working hard to keep as few extra people on campus as possible, so that we can be fully aware at all times where students and staff are and with whom they are. We appreciate everyone's support on this!

Please contact your school's staff if you have any questions.